



SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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November 17, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

9 November 17, 2015


PATRICK OGAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**APPROVE THE INTRODUCTION OF AND SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION AN ORDINANCE TO
ESTABLISH AN OFFICE OF DIVERSION AND RE-ENTRY WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH SERVICES
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommendation will introduce and schedule for adoption an ordinance to establish an Office of Diversion and Re-Entry within the Department of Health Services.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve the accompanying ordinance that will amend Title 2 – Administration of the Los Angeles County Code to establish the Office of Diversion and Re-Entry within the Department of Health Services.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On September 1, 2015, the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the interim Chief Executive Officer and interim County Counsel to draft an ordinance to establish the Office of Diversion and Re-entry (Office) within the Department of Health Services. The Office will be responsible for oversight and coordination of all countywide diversion of persons who have mental illness or substance abuse issues, and persons who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless upon discharge.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action supports Goal 1 – Operational Effectiveness and Goal 3 – Integrated Services Delivery.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Office has the potential to create new efficiencies in system delivery and cost avoidance by re-directing persons in need of physical, mental, and public health services, from the criminal justice system to appropriate care and treatment in lieu of incarceration.

During the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Supplemental Budget phase, the Board allocated the Office a total of \$74.5 million, including \$60.2 million in one-time and \$14.3 million in ongoing funds. Further, the Board directed that 40 percent of the funds be used for housing, 50 percent for diversion and anti-recidivism programs, and 10 percent for administrative costs.

As directed by the Board, the CEO will work with the Office to incorporate future budget recommendations into the County's annual budget process.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The accompanying ordinance adds a new section to Chapter 2.76 of the Los Angeles County Code, establishing an Office of Diversion and Re-Entry within the Department of Health Services. The Office will be overseen by a Director, will be responsible for coordinating County-wide diversion efforts, including working with a Permanent Steering Committee which will act in an advisory capacity to the Office and its Director. Diversion efforts are to include a system of integrated mental, physical, and public health care, as well as supportive housing, for homeless persons or persons at risk of homelessness. These individuals will include those who are re-directed from the criminal justice system or re-entering the community after incarceration and who have a mental illness or substance use disorder. Likewise, these individuals will include those who intercept the criminal justice system at various points of contact, including through law enforcement or first responders, involvement with the criminal court system, incarceration or post-release from incarceration.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

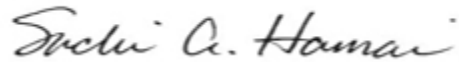
Your approval of these recommendations will improve coordination of care, outcomes, and system efficiency.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

11/17/2015

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sachi A. Hamai".

SACHI A. HAMAI

Chief Executive Officer

SAH:JJ:BC:DT:cg

Enclosures

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Health Services
Permanent Steering Committee